APCO Earns UL-2998 Validation for Zero Ozone Emissions

Underwriters Laboratory (UL) has created an environmental claim validation (UL-2998) which is intended to help wholesalers, contractors and consumers make an informed choice when selecting an indoor air purification system that emits zero ozone. Products that pass the demanding UL Environmental Claim Validation are listed in the UL SPOT database of sustainable products (www.ul.com/spot). Fresh-Aire UV APCO is the first UV/PCO based air purification product lines to achieve this important validation.

UL Environmental Validation helps specifiers satisfy the requirements of the various green building design programs, building codes, and procurement policies including LEED®, GSA Advantage®, the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS), the International Green Construction Code (IgCC), and European Union guidelines and directives.

Ozone Risk from Air Purifiers

Ozone (often hidden by clever marketing terms) is a toxic gas that is proven to have a negative effect on human health. Indoor sources of ozone can cause health problems even at relatively low concentrations, including respiratory tract irritation, asthma, and even permanent lung damage.

Ironically, many air purifiers on the market today generate ozone during normal use. We spend about 90% of our time indoors so exposure to ozone from these devices can become a significant health risk. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) was the first to set a limit on ozone emissions from all medical devices at 50 ppb. In 2008, because of the dangers associated with ozone, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) finalized a state regulation targeting ozone emissions from air cleaners. It requires all electronic air cleaners to be certified to emit less than 50 ppb according to the UL867 standard. For UL2998, qualifying zero ozone emission products must demonstrate they emit less than the maximum ozone concentration limit of 0.005 ppm (5 ppb) - which is 10 fold less than permitted under UL 867 which allows concentrations of 0.05 ppm (50 ppb).

Fresh-Aire UV Ozone-Free

Fresh-Aire UV is committed to making the most effective, reliable, and safe air purification products possible. Growing concerns about the safety of ozone for odor removal and the recent ASHRAE Position Document on Filtration and Air Cleaning have made it clear that our industry needs to change. Today many Central HVAC mounted air purification systems still broadcast large amounts of ozone or airborne oxidizers into occupied spaces as a means of attacking odors and airborne microbes, this approach is clearly unsafe.